

POLREP # 01 and Final

Main Line Allergy and Pulmonary Clinic Mercury Spill

233 East Lancaster Avenue

Ardmore, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania 19003

Event: Emergency Response

Attn: Charlie Kleeman and RRC

I. SITUATION (As of Monday, December 23, 2002):

- A. At 1630 hours on December 17, 2002, the OSC was contacted by the RRC of a small mercury spill at the Main Line Allergy and Pulmonary Clinic located at 233 E. Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore, Pennsylvania. After attempts to have state and/or local authorities respond were unsuccessful, the OSC contacted OSC Kelly for assistance and alerted START that air monitoring capabilities may be required that evening. START mobilized to the Boothwyn office and acquired necessary supplies to respond to the site that evening. At 1815 hours, after discussing the spill with the clinics head nurse, and being informed that all clinic staff were leaving for the evening, OSC Kelly informed START that EPA would respond to the site at 0800 on December 18, 2002 to take screening readings with a Jerome meter and provide the responsible party with additional technical support.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

- A. At 0800 hours, December 18, 2002, EPA met with the clinic's head nurse in order to access the exam room which contained spilled mercury from a broken, wall mounted, blood pressure gauge. Upon arrival to the spill area the exam room was sealed by the clinics staff with paper towels along the base of the door, and tape across the closed entranceway controlling access to the room. Inside the exam room was left untouched by the clinic staff after the spill. The spilled mercury was present on the exam table, and splattered on the wall and carpet below the broken, mounted, blood pressure gauge.

- B. START logged the following readings with a Jerome mercury vapor analyzer (MVA):

<u>Location</u>	<u>Readings (in ug/m³)</u>
1 st floor entry	0
Elevator	0
Hallway outside office	0
Hallway outside exam room	0
Exam room with mercury spill	9 to 19

According to ATSDR, action levels for public buildings are typically 2 to 9 ug/m³ and 0.3 to 1.0 ug/m³ in residential homes.

- C. After the OSC discussed the nature of the spill with clinic staff and asserted that it was the clinics responsibility to clean up the mercury, they elected to hire a private

environmental firm to clean the spill. Lewis Environmental conducted cleanup activities starting on December 19, 2002, which included; removing free mercury and placing in sealed containers, removing the top upholstered layer of exam table and containing, and removing carpet from the entire room (approximately 100 ft²) and placing in 55-gallon steel drum.

- D. At 0800 hours, December 20, 2002, EPA mobilized START to the site to conduct additional Jerome MVA screening. The following readings were collected from this survey:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Readings (in ug/m³)</u>
1 st floor entry	0
Elevator	0
Hallway outside office	0
Hallway outside exam room (door open)	4
Exam room with mercury spill	4 to 5
Doctor's room to left	0 to 9 (0 after recalibration)
Room to right:	0

An additional air monitoring event was planned for Monday, Dec 23rd, 2002.

- E. At 0800 hours, December 23, 2002, EPA mobilized START to the site to conduct a final Jerome screening. The following readings were collected from this survey:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Readings (in ug/m³)</u>
1 st floor entry	0
Elevator	0
Hallway outside office	0
Hallway outside exam room (door open)	0
Exam room with mercury spill	0
Doctor's room to left	0
Room to right:	0

Clinic staff stated that the waste drum and other materials would be disposed of properly once the clinics insurance rep had coordinated efforts with Lewis Environmental.

III. FUTURE ACTIONS

- A. No further actions are anticipated.


Perry Gaughan, OSC
U.S. EPA, Region III
Philadelphia, PA 19103



Charlie Kleeman

12/18/02 08:20 AM

To: Abe Ferdas/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Alexandra Rajkowski/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Amelia Libertz/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Andrew Blaney/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Bonnie Smith/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Bucky Walters/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Carole Dougherty/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Carrie Deitzel/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Chris Ball/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Cristina Fernandez/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, David Polish/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, David Senderling/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, David Sternberg/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Deborah Eble/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Dennis Carney/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Donald Welsh/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Donna Heron/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Donna Kotsch/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Donna McGowan/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Joseph Arena/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Deborah Carlson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Glen Lapsley/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Dennis Matlock/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lawrence Richardson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Mike Welsh/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Fran Burns/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Eduardo Rovira/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Bob Guarni/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Neeraj Sharma/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Eric Johnson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, wright.anita@epa.gov, Christine Wagner/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Douglas Fox/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Greg Ham/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jack Downie/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jack Kelly/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Kevin Boyd/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Marcos Aquino/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Marjorie Easton/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Taurino/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Towle/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Zickler/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Fetzter/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Richard Rupert/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Robertj Kelly/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Stephen Jarvela/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Vincent Zenone/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Myles Bartos/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Perry Gaughan/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, John Valovage/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Fran Burns/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Gail Tindal/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Gary Bryant/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Gerald Heston/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Hank Sokolowski/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, HeatherGray Torres/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jacquelinier Williams/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, James Thompson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Clark/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, mccreary.jim@epa.gov, Joseph Donovan/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Kathy Hodgkiss/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Kenneth Kryszczun/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lena Kim/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Linda Marzulli/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lisa Brown/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lora Werner/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Lorrie Murray/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, mtcphil@aol.com, Margaret Hottensen/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Mark Mjones/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Martin Harrell/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Martin Powell/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Marty Wright/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael Burke/CBP/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael DAndrea/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael_Chezik@ios.doi.gov, Neil Wise/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Nelson Mix/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Patrick Boyle/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Peter Schaul/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Ray George/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Reed Grimenstein/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Rich Kampf/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Ruth Wuenschel/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, spillreports.oerr@epa.gov, Shawn Garvin/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Susan Helbert/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Thomas Damm/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Tom



Stukas/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Tom Voltaggio/R3/USEPA/US, Vance
Evans/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Walter Graham/R3/USEPA/US@EPA,
William Hudson/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, William
Steuteville/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

CC:

Subject: Ardmore PA Mercury Spill Emergency Response

OSCs Perry Gaughan and Jack Kelly are responding this morning to the scene of a spill of mercury from a blood pressure monitor at the Main Line Allergy and Pulmonary Clinic in Ardmore, PA. The clinic called the Regional Response Center late yesterday asking for advice and assistance. After the caller failed to obtain assistance from State and local authorities, we agreed to assess the situation and make recommendations for a cleanup action by the clinic. The OSCs and EPA's START contractor will measure mercury concentrations in air with a Jerome monitor and will recommend steps to be taken by the clinic.

Charles L. Kleeman, Chief
Removal Response Section (3HS31)
215-814-3257 (office)
215-859-3164 (cell)